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A

CONCISE AND SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

OF A

PAINFUL AFFECTION

OF THE

NERVES OF THE FACE;

COMMONLY CALLED

TIC DOULOUREUX.

NERVOUS INJURIES MEDICAL LIBRARY

BY

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PREFACE.

Some time ago I had occasion to direct my attention to a disease, hitherto very little known or understood. I was much interested by its peculiar symptoms; and was surprised that so little notice had been taken of it by medical men. It is a disease of the nerves, most painful and acute; and has often been mistaken for, and confounded with, other complaints. This pointed out the necessity of some systematic account being given of a malady which is at present involved in so much obscurity. For though there are many single cases of it recorded with sufficient accuracy;

though there are many very excellent observations and remarks upon it, by practitioners of eminence; they are diffused through such a variety of publications, that it is difficult to obtain much information on the subject. It is true, that there are some foreign works that contain a very good history of the disease, but I did not consider any of them to be written with so much ability and intelligence as to preclude the labour of other writers; and they are, besides, difficult to be procured.

I thought, then, that an attempt to select and arrange the materials that were diffused through a variety of different works, together with such information as I have been enabled to obtain from several very respectable practitioners of surgery and medicine, and such observations as I have had an opportunity of

making from my own practice, might not be entirely useless. And I shall consider myself particularly fortunate, if the contents of this pamphlet should interest any gentleman to communicate his opinions on a disease which at present seems to be so little under the influence of medicine; or to suggest any improvements or addition to the account which I now with much diffidence offer to the Public.

TIC DOULOUREUX, &c.

BEFORE I commence the history of the disease which is the subject of the following pages, I am desirous to affix to it some name, more just and appropriate than has yet been done. It is now generally known by the name of Tic Douloureux; to which I object, in the first place, because, it conveys not the least idea of the seat or nature of the affection; for Tic Douloureux may with equal propriety be applied to a painful affection of any part of the body; whereas, the disease in question, as I hope in the course of this treatise to prove, is almost universally confined to the second branch of the fifth pair of nerves, called the superior maxillary nerve:

and the portio dura of the seventh pair, or pes anserinus distributed over the face. Besides, by Tic, the French sometimes express what we know by the Latin word Trismus, which in this case is improper, for locked jaw is not a symptom of the disease.

A painful affection of the face might do before any systematic account of the disease could be obtained; but it surely is a vague term, that may be applied to any other pain to which the face is subject: it was so named by Dr. Fothergill; and some German writers call it Dolor Faciei Fothergilli; but, though we may call an island, a star, or a flower, by the name of their discoverer, or an hospital by the name of its founder, yet, to introduce such a practice into the nomenclature of diseases, would only breed confusion; and we might soon expect that the furor of transmitting their names to posterity tacked to a disease, would inflame medical men as violently as the *scribendi cacoëthes* afflicts

authors before they have been damned by the critics.

Trismus Dolorificus of Sauvage Dr. Darwin has saved me the trouble of confuting, by saying, "The word trismus, is an improper "name, as no fixed spasm, like the locked jaw, "exists in this malady; nor any stridor den-"tium." &c. &c.

Dr. Darwin calls it Hemicrinia Idiopathica, but I consider Hemicrania as a distinct disease, possessing symptoms peculiar to itself, differing from those of the malady of the face, in their nature and character, as will appear evident from the diagnosis which I have endeavoured to establish.

I have therefore ventured to suggest a title, which will at least convey some idea of the disease, and the parts where it is seated—*Faciei morbus nervorum crucians*—and shall consider

myself under an obligation to any individual who will favour me with a more appropriate name, or convince me of the impropriety of the one which I have adopted: it is unpleasantly long, but I could not stumble upon one that would be shorter, and at the same time equally expressive. If, then, it can be improved; and such improvement I have reason to hope for and expect, well! If not, let it stand; till, as we advance in knowledge, it must yield to superior perfection; and I shall, in either case, claim the humble merit, by having shewn the impropriety of the terms by which it has hitherto been designated, to have prepared the way for those who choose to exercise their ingenuity on so steril a subject; and I shall be among the first to condemn and renounce the term which I have chosen, when a better one is produced.

HISTORY OF THE DISEASE.

Faciei morbus nervorum crucians, is one of those numerous painful affections, which, whilst it tortures and afflicts the miserable sufferer, perplexes and troubles the physician; who, after compassionating, and anxiously witnessing the horrid and excruciating torment of the patient; after a fruitless, but persevering essay of every medicine that his art can combine, or his imagination and skill suggest; is obliged to consign the trembling and unfortunate victim to the scalpel of the surgeon.

And here I cannot help lamenting the inefficacy of the healing art, in this, and many

other diseases; for, though since the days of Hippocrates the improvements in medicine have been great, and fact has been accumulated upon fact, whilst able men have digested and arranged them in the beautiful order of science: though many new and brilliant discoveries have been made, by which the progress of disease is checked, and the blessing of health ensured to millions of beings; still much remains to be accomplished, and there is yet ground to be cleared, and new paths to be discovered, by those who are desirous of improving and ameliorating the condition of man, by diminishing the dark catalogue of his evils. Every individual, when he commences the arduous career of his profession, *and enters with steady alacrity, and persevering resolution*, on its various duties, may hope himself to be a successful labourer; and though he may not have the good fortune to signalize himself in the field of discovery, it is impossible for him, under such circumstances, with a liberal edu-

cation and an enlightened mind, not to improve his profession, and leave behind him some memorial of a useful existence.

It may naturally be expected, that the history of a disease so little known and understood, must be obscure, involved in doubt, and difficult to delineate. It was long before any writer or observer of the least celebrity noticed its progress and symptoms: but, when at length the attention of the medical world was directed to it, by the publication of some cases with remarks, by Dr. Fothergill, it was found that there were already some few instances recorded; though he was, I believe, the first Englishman who published his opinion on the subject; and the first of any country, who gave any precise and accurate account of this singular disease: for some of the early writers mistook for it, certain nervous, rheumatic, and convulsive affections; as is evident from their description,

and from the more clear and accurate information which we have since obtained*. That Dr. Fothergill had not read any account of it, is evident from his writings, his remarks being entirely suggested from the cases which he saw; and his character is sufficiently known, to preclude any idea of his *unjustly* assuming the merit of originality.

By one of those very useful members of the community, who are ever anxious to ascertain the year, the day, and the hour, of every discovery, it has been traced back to the year 1665. And great, no doubt, did that man think himself, who had the felicity to discover, after long toil and wearisome labour, that Lawrence Bausch, physician at Schweinfurth in Franconia, president and founder of the Societas naturæ curiosorum, died of this disorder, in the

* See Mem. de la Soc. Roy. de Med. à Paris, Tom. V.

year of our Lord, one thousand, six hundred, and sixty-five, according to the annals of the aforesaid society *.

There is a work written by Monsieur Pujol, which Thouret informs us, contains the best, and in fact the only regular history of the morbus crucians: but it was written since the account published by my uncle, in the year 1776; for Pujol observes in his treatise, "Le Docteur "Fothergill à êté le premier à la decrire avec "quelque exactitude," &c.

As Pujol is acknowledged to have laboured the most, to trace out this disease in the writings of the ancients, I shall transcribe what Thouret has given us of it, with his observations and remarks.

* I have not seen the account, and should much doubt the fact, as I know of no instance of the disease having terminated fatally.

" SUIVANT * lui, (Pujol) depuis Hippocrate " jusqu' an milieu du 18^ime siécle, on n'a con- " nu des affections de ce genre que celles qui " sont relatives aux differentes espéces de ris in- " volontaire, et que l'on rapportoit à deux prin- " cipales, l'une de nature convulsive, comme le " ris Sardonique, l'autre tenant du caractère de " la paralysie. De ces deux maladies, la pre- " mière étant analogue aux maladies aigues, " telles que les fiévres malignes, dont on la re- " gardoit comme un symptome ; la seconde " étant considérée comme une affection chro- " nique, mais dont l'effet etoit ainsi que dans

* According to Pujol, from the time of Hippocrates to the middle of the eighteenth century, no affections of this kind were known, except such as are referable to the different species of involuntary laughter, *ris involontaire,* and which they chiefly referred to two; one of a convulsive nature, as the Sardonian laughter, *ris Sardonique,* the other holding the character of paralysis. Of these two maladies, the first being analogous to acute diseases, such as malignant fevers, of which it is generally considered as a symptom; the second being regarded as a chronic affection, but with the effect, as is likewise the case in the other, of keeping the

" l'autre de tenir les muscles du visage dans un " état de retraction constante ; aucune ne pa- " roit se rapprocher du tic douloureux, dont " les effets se manifestent, par des alternatives " aussi frequentes que subites. Cœlius Aure- " lianus est le seul, qui, sous le titre de raptus " caninus, ait decrit une espéce de ris involon- " taire, qui porte ce caractère d'action alter- " native, d'accès imprêvus, qui constitue le " tic douloureux. M. Pujol observe ensuite " qu'Avicenne est le premier auteur qui en " écrivant plus au long que ses prédécesseurs " sur les ris involontaires, parle de la douleur

facial muscles in a constant state of retraction ; neither of them would appear to resemble the tic douloureux, the effects of which are manifested by alternations as frequent as they are sudden. Cœlius Aurelianus is the only author, who, under the title of raptus caninus, has described a species of involuntary laughter, which possesses that character of alternative action, of sudden accession, which constitutes the tic douloureux. Pujol next observes, that Avicenna is the first author, who, in writing at greater length upon the different kinds of involuntary laughter than his predecessors had done,

" comme d'une symptome de ces maladies. " Le nom qu'il leur donne, et que Gerard de " Cremone, traducteur du texte Arabe, a cru " devoir rendre par celui de *tortura faciei*, en " est la preuve, suivant M. Pujol. Ce n'est pas, " comme il observe, que tous les autres n'aient " regardées le tortura d'Avicenne, comme le " synonime de torsio, distorsio. Mais il re- " marque que rien ne justifie cette version, qui " suppose dans le mot Latin du traducteur un " contre-sens evident, et que l'original donne " d'ailleurs une ideé assez juste de la nature " de ces douleurs."

speaks of pain as a symptom of these maladies. The name that he gives them, and which Gerard de Cremone, translator of the Arabic text, has thought to render exact by that of tortura faciei, according to Pujol, is a proof of it.— It is not, as he observes, that all authors have considered the *tortura* of Avicenna, as the synonime of torsio, distorsio. But he remarks, that nothing justifies this translation, which supposes in the Latin word of the translator an evidently contrary meaning; and that the original, moreover, gives a sufficiently just idea of the nature of these pains.

THOURET has here given us, in a few words, the result of Pujol's laborious researches into the antiquity of the morbus crucians; from which, all that we can learn is, that Hippocrates has not described such a malady, but that Cœlius Aurelianus, and Avicenna, were probably acquainted with it. However, what Pujol has advanced, by no means proves that the ris involontaires, and tortura faciei, of Avicenna, or the raptus caninus of Aurelianus, had any affinity with the morbus crucians; and whether they had or had not, is at present of very little consequence. Those, however, who are fond of such disquisitions, may consult *Pujol's essài sur la maladie de la face*, from page 37, to page 53.

THE SEAT, NATURE, AND SYMPTOMS.

HAVING communicated all the information that I could procure, of the first appearance of this disease, I shall next attempt to describe its character and symptoms; premising that, as I could not obtain any systematic account of it, except in the essay of Pujol, what I here present to the public results from the comparison of all the cases and remarks which I have been able to collect, carefully observing the symptoms peculiar to each, and selecting those only which appeared to be faithfully marked and

recorded, and confirmed by the testimony of several instances*.

As to the nature of the morbus crucians, I do not even hazard a conjecture, but wait till greater experience and information shall throw some light on a subject which opinion cannot explain, nor hypothesis prove. Pujol indeed asserts, that no practitioner at all conversant with nervous diseases can doubt its being spasmodic; and therefore feels himself dispensed from the obligation of entering into long details to prove it.

* The principal works which I have consulted, or to which I am indebted for much of this performance, are the Journal de Medicine; Mem. de la Soc. Roy. de Med. à Paris; Journal Encyclopedique; Essai sur la Maladie de la Face, par M. Pujol; Recueil Periodique de Medicine; Sabatier's work on Anatomy; the Medical and Physical Journal; and the Observations and Cases of Drs. Fothergill, and Haighton: and other single cases recorded in foreign journals, the names of which I have forgot, but the authors were Lentin, Seibold, and some others.

THE disease is not of such rare occurrence as many have supposed. Fothergill met with sixteen cases; Thouret with as many or more; Pujol about the same number; Seibold with several; Lentin fourteen; M. Andrée six; and several practitioners of the present day, as Mr. A. P. Cooper, Dr. Haighton, and Mr. Thomas &c. &c. have had some cases come under their notice. It is, perhaps, more from want of observation, than from its unfrequency, that we are so little acquainted with it; many practitioners referring such pains to rheumatism, gout, tooth-ach, &c. &c. However, to those who have the slightest pretensions to just discrimination, and accurate judgment, its symptoms are sufficiently marked and characteristic.

THE most frequent seat of the affection, is in the nerves over the os malæ, just below the orbit; the ala nasi, upper lip, teeth, and gums. When this is the case, it will be found to pro-

ceed from the second branch of the fifth pair of nerves, the *superior maxillary nerve*, which passes through the foramen rotundum, and whose branches are chiefly distributed to those parts. Sometimes the forehead and temple, and inner canthus of the eye, and even the globe of the eye itself, are first affected, from the first branch of the fifth pair, the ophthalmic branch being the subject of the disease; and as there are some cases recorded in which the patient suffered much from an effusion of scalding tears, it might probably arise from that branch of the ophthalmic, which goes to the lachrymal gland, being affected. The two other chief branches of the ophthalmic, which are, however, very rarely the seat of this affection, are the frontal and the nasal; the first of which is distributed to the muscles surrounding the eye, and the muscles and integuments of the forehead; whilst the nasal branch passes obliquely through the orbit, giving off one or two twigs to the fasciculi of the ciliary nerves; and then

is continued betwixt the superior oblique and adductor muscles, passes through the internal orbital foramen; and, after again entering the skull, passes once more out of the cranium through the cribriform plate of the ethmoid bone, to be finally distributed to the superior spongy bones, and frontal sinuses: when, in addition to the parts already named, the lower jaw and tongue are affected, the third branch of the fifth pair, or lower maxillary nerve, is diseased. Perhaps, as frequently as any of these nerves, is the portio dura of the seventh pair diseased; it gives off branches to most parts of the face, and, from its spreading, is named pes anserinus. Its branches communicate with several of those of the fifth pair. The distinguishing mark of its being affected is, that besides the parts already enumerated, we find pain in the ear, the mastoid process, and the angle of the lower jaw. The disease then is chiefly confined to the fifth pair of nerves, of which most frequently the second branch

only is affected, and the branches of the portio dura of the seventh pair. But, from the intimate connexion of most of the branches of these nerves with each other, the disease seldom continues long without extending its ravages; and, as there are communications more or less intimate between, I believe all the first seven pair of nerves, which are distributed to every part of the head and face; it is just to suppose that, in very inveterate cases, all the nerves may be affected: hence the great necessity of an early attention to the disease, as will be further seen in a future part of this treatise.

The complaint commences with slight, and almost imperceptible attacks of pain, and generally without any warning, though some patients feel, in the affected part, peculiar and inexplicable sensations preceding its approach, from which they announce with horror the coming enemy; the patient at the same time en-

joying a good or an indifferent state of health. The pain, however, soon becomes most acute and lancinating, shooting and darting along the various ramifications of the affected nerves. It generally continues from a quarter to half a minute; and never exceeds the space of one minute. It returns at intervals, more or less frequent; there being sometimes several paroxysms in a few minutes: and at other times there are intervals of from fifteen to thirty minutes, or longer. There is no determinate period; we always find the utmost irregularity, even in the same patient *.

* Pujol observes that, in the beginning, the complaint is not always well marked. Sometimes the patients only feel acute darting pains which shoot with incredible rapidity along the part which is the seat of the disease; or they feel dull and continued pains, which gradually become more acute, and only gain the full extent of their violence in becoming intermittent. At other times, says the same writer, the disease is ushered in with a swelling of the whole cheek, and a racking pain, much greater than is caused by a simple fluxion; the tumor daily subsides, and the disease daily advances. In one instance the tumor terminated by suppura-

THE pains vary in their degree of intensity, at one time exciting the most piercing cries, and distracted writhings and motions in the miserable patient, while at another they are more bearable. When at the acmè of their violence, the parts affected are often convulsed; and sometimes, various contortions and grimaces are observable. These are to be distinguished from the convulsive twitchings of the muscles, with which the diseased nerves communicate, and which are occasioned by irritation from the excessive pain; while the contortions and grimaces are voluntary, being caused by the patient's writhing and twisting from the agony of his torture, and may be prevented by a firm resolution to resist any impulse of shrinking from the attack.

tion in the interior of the cheek. I should, however, much doubt such cases being genuine cases of the morbus crucians, as the instances observed by the most accurate practitioners are unattended with inflammation or swelling.

THE pain does not always confine itself to the seat of the disease, but darts with the rapidity of lightning to the neighbouring parts, shooting in different directions like radii from a centre. It rarely gives warning of its approach, and often the first sign of an attack is the patient starting up in a state little short of phrensy. In this condition some patients beat the part with violence, or forcibly rub it with some rough substance till excoriation takes place; and in some instances they have succeeded in diminishing the intensity of the pain.

PUJOL gives a very striking picture of a person seized with an attack of this excruciating malady; and as his work is not much known, and difficult to be obtained in this country, I shall make no apology for giving a short extract.

" Dés * qu'on considére une personne qui
" ressént actuellement une attaque un peu vive
" de tic douloureux à la joue, on la voit tenir
" les sourcils froncés, les deux paupières forte-
" ment comprimées, et la commissure des
" lévres, retirée vers l'oreille comme dans le
" ris Sardonique. La mâchoire inferieure de-
" meure immobile, et dans la même situation
" ou elle s'est trouvée dans le moment de l'in-
" vasion ; sa respiration est lente, et comme
" suspendue, souvent elle n'ose faire le moindre
" cri, ni proférer une seule parole. Elle semble
" même redoubter le plus léger mouvement
" du tronc ; ses attitudes forcées, et son état

* When we observe a person who actually feels a pretty sharp attack of tic douloureux in the cheek, we see him knit his brows, both the eye-lids are strongly compressed, and the commissure of the lips is drawn towards the ear, as in the Sardonian laughter. The lower jaw remains immoveable, and in the same situation in which it was at the moment of attack; the respiration is slow, as if suspended; and often the patient dares not make the least cry, nor utter a single exclamation. He even seems to dread the slightest motion

" presque extatique expriment mieux que tous " les discours, la force de ces douleurs. Aussi " dès qu'elle est libre, elle ne manque guérre " de se plaindre du ton le plus lugubre, et avec " les termes les plus energiques. En general, " ces sortes des malades sont si fort occupés de " leur mal, qu'ils deviennent bientôt insensibles " aux douceurs de la société, et incapables de " s'occuper sérieusement de tout autre objet " que d'eux-mêmes."

The pains are more frequent during the day, than in the night, probably from there being then fewer causes of irritation; and they are more frequent during conversation than in

* of the body; and his forced attitudes, and almost ecstatic state, much better express the violence of his pains, than can any verbal description. No sooner is he free from the attack, than he complains of what he has felt, in the most mournful tones, and in language the most energetic. In general, such patients are so much occupied with the thoughts of their malady, that they soon become indifferent to the charms of society, and incapable of attending to any other object than themselves.

silence; and still more so at the time of mastication, when the attacks often succeed each other with such rapidity, as to appear like one continued paroxysm, with scarcely an interval of cessation.

The eye at times is red, inflamed, and watery, as we sometimes observe in severe odontalgia. In other cases, it is particularly dry; and in some patients a copious flow of saliva succeeds a paroxysm.

In general, only one side of the face is affected with this dreadful malady. But, as there are cases recorded in which both sides suffered at the same time, we cannot lay it down as a certain characteristic of the disease. Fouquet observed at Montpellier two women who had both cheeks affected at the same time; and Pujol knew a lady, who, for several months had the pain in one cheek, which after a while was free from pain, but the other cheek was

immediately attacked in the corresponding place, the pain continuing for two months, and then resuming its former position.

When the disease continues for a great length of time with increasing violence, the patient can neither obtain rest by night nor by day. His appetite fails; and, as may be expected, there is some degree of pyrexia. But this rarely happens; and only in cases of the utmost severity.

The complaint usually terminates without any apparent cause, leaving the patient, for a time, to enjoy the comforts of life. But whoever has had one attack, may with considerable certainty anticipate another; and though he is to-day, well, and free from all pain, to-morrow's dawn may usher in a renewal of his torment. So varied is the duration of this affection, and so limited is our knowledge of it, that we can assign no determinate or even pro-

bable period for its continuance; and unless a cure is effected, it returns at intervals more or less frequent, and with increased violence, till the great final catastrophe; which, however, it does not seem to accelerate. For though Dr. Bausch is said to have died of it, we can place little reliance on the report; and subsequent cases and observations do not corroborate such a supposition.

In no other instance that I have yet met with, did it terminate in death, or in any dangerous disease or affection. It is true, Lentin informs us, that* this affection is often followed by other very serious evils. He has seen it terminate in melancholic mania. Another patient, he continues, after pains of this kind, was affected with what he calls "engorgemens glanduleux dans le bas ventre;"

* "Cette affection traine souvent, après elle, d'autres "maux très graves."

by which I suppose is meant glandular obstructions in the abdomen, of which he died, after lingering twelve years. And a woman, after having suffered the morbus crucians for several years, was attacked with a cancer upon the tongue, with insupportable fœtor. But surely these instances can have no weight whatever; because Lentin, out of fourteen patients suffering the morbus crucians, had three of them attacked with these different maladies, we are not to insert in our history of the disease, that it often induces a train of very serious disorders. He has no other authority for such an assertion, than his three cases; and it is a known and established fact, that many patients live to a very advanced age, sustain numberless attacks of the morbus crucians; and, except during the paroxysms, are not in the least injured in their health; nor can I find that it predisposes to any malady whatever. So ready is man ever to draw hasty conclusions from uncertain and partial premises.

Pains said to resemble those of the faciei morbus nervorum crucians, are sometimes met with in other parts of the body. Mr. A. P. Cooper mentions a case, in which the radial nerve was affected. Lentin relates a case, where the pain was seated in the calf of the right leg. But of these affections I do not profess, in this paper, to treat. If any such occur, we have only to compare them with the symptoms of the morbus crucians, to determine whether or not they are of a similar nature. I confess I have not found a single instance in the different authors which I have consulted, that I could refer to that disease. But I by no means deny the possibility of such an occurrence. If one nerve is affected, surely another may also be liable to a similar affection.

Hartenkeil, Hildebrande, and Baldinger, and some other Germans, relate cases of what they call tic douloureux; which, though in some particulars they resemble that affec-

tion, in others differ most materially. The first of these writers describes it as having been very prevalent at Saltzburg. But the pain was periodical, recurring generally once in twenty-four hours; and sometimes, though rarely, once in twelve hours; often remaining for several hours at a time, and then suddenly departing.

However, I should rather suppose these to be cases of hemicrania; for that has, in many instances, been observed to attack the patients periodically, and to yield to bark. In the cases recorded by Hartenkeil, we are informed that the occasional causes were exposure to moist air, sudden accessions of cold, caries of the teeth, and hot drinks or soups. The seat of the disease was chiefly in the teeth, ear, temples, and os frontis. The proximate cause he imagined to be a gouty principle, *principe arthritique*. These cases were cured by bark and opium administered in large doses. But

those who are familiar with the symptoms of the faciei morbus nervorum crucians, know their superior degree of violence, the shortness of the interval between each attack, and the obstinacy with which they resist every medicine.

THE editors of the Bibliothéque Germanique, speaking of those authors, viz. Hartenkeil, Hildebrande, and Baldinger, are astonished that they should confound with the tic douloureux, maladies that bear very little affinity to it. "Quant* à nous," say they, "en "lisant la description que ces différens auteurs "ont données sous la denomination de tic "douloureux, nous somme fort étonnés de les "voir confondre des maladies qui n'ont entre

* As for us, say they, in reading the description which these different authors have given under the denomination of tic douloureux, we are very much surprised to see them confound diseases which bear very little analogy to each

" elles que bien peu de rapporte. Tout ce qu'en " dit Hartenkeil, se rapporte evidemment aux " *douleurs rheumatismales periodiques*, que " depuis long tems les praticiens ont appris à " guérir par le quinquina." &c. &c.

I HAVE also seen some cases very similar to those related by these authors, and have reason to believe they are by no means uncommon. The complaint succeeded exposure to cold, about the period of the vernal equinox. The patients were mostly females not arrived at the middle period of life. The pain was generally regular in its attack, affecting one half of the head and face; and returning at intervals of twelve and twenty-four hours; the face was much flushed and heated during the continuance of the pain; and the eye of the affected

other. All that Hartenkeil says of the tic douloureux evidently relates to periodical rheumatic pains, which practitioners have long since learned to cure with bark. &c.

side in one case was slightly inflamed: these symptoms were increased by the slightest local irritation. I succeeded in curing them by bark and opium. In one case, of a young woman, where the symptoms were extremely violent, her face being completely suffused with crimson during the paroxysm, I applied a blister behind each ear, and gave two ounces of bark decoction, with ten drops of laudanum, every four hours: she suffered but one attack of pain after taking the medicines.

THE PREDISPOSING CAUSES

Of this disease would seem to be, a certain period of life, when the strength begins to fail, the functions to be impaired, and the whole corporeal frame to feel the first signs of approaching decay. We rarely find it commence before the fiftieth year, though two or three cases of an earlier date are recorded. The following list comprises all the cases I could meet with, where the age was mentioned: but many more where the age was not specified; though said in general terms to be from forty years to eighty and upwards, are detailed in the Mem. de la Soc. Roy. de Med. à Paris. The cases in which the age was accurately noted, were, one aged 30, one 35, one 48, one 49, five 50, one 53, one 55, one 63, 64, 65, 75, 78, and 80 years.

We have also reason to infer that there must be some peculiar predisposition or habit of body. What that is, I do not presume to determine; and all that I have read upon the subject is shrouded in the darkest obscurity.—If ever we advance so far in the science of medicine, as to ascertain what it is in the system which predisposes to certain diseases, we shall probably be able to prevent the accession of many that now oppose all the efforts of art, and defy the utmost exertion of skill and superior ability. But, though I fear that period is very far distant, and rather to be hoped for than expected, it is still the duty of every individual, as much as in him lies, to endeavour to accelerate the further developement of a study which involves so many of the most important interests of humanity.

" Nam tali auxilio nam defensoribus istis
" Tempus eget."

and, surely, of every one who wishes to pro-

mote the welfare of mortality, this should be the motto; a motto to be engraved on the tablets of his heart.

Αιεν αριστευειν και υπειροχον εμμεναι αλλων
Μηδε γενος πατερων αισχυνεμεν.

Women do not seem to be more liable to the complaint than men; though Dr. Fothergill, having a great proportion of female patients, he imagined they were more predisposed to it; as likewise did Pujol, from their greater sensibility. The latter author, in his essai, p. 14, says, " On observe généralement dans les per-
" sonnes sujettes au tic douloureux, qu'il existe
" en elles un fond de mobilité, qui les rend plus
" ou moins disposées aux affections histeriques
" ou hypochondriaques. Mais comme l'a bien
" remarqué le Docteur Fothergill, les femmes,

* We generally observe in such people as are subject to tic douloureux, an excess of mobility; which renders them more or less disposed to hysterical and hypochondriacal affections. But, as Dr. Fothergill has well observed, women,

" à raison de leur sensibilité plus marquée, " y sont plus sujettes que les hommes."— Now, both Dr. Fothergill and Pujol were of the same opinion, with regard to the disease occurring in people of the greatest sensibility, and that they both saw more cases of female than of male patients; they yet both of them asserted that they met with no cases under forty years of age: and Pujol even expresses his surprise that children are not subject to the complaint. If their theory was just, they ought to have observed the disease only in persons of remarkable sensibility, and at that period of life when it is the greatest. But experience teaches us, that people very far removed from excess of sensibility, are equally liable to the disease; that women are not more liable to it than are men; and that the period of life is that when the sensibility or mobility of fibre is most defective. I should therefore suspect, that they

by reason of their more marked sensibility, are more subject to the disease than men.

rather asserted what they thought probable, than what was really the fact; for surely if they had not previously adopted their hypothesis, they would have considered that the sensibility of youth, must exceed that of senility: and, from the testimony of other writers, they might have learnt, that men, and men not peculiarly gifted with sensibility, are as frequently the subjects of this painful affection, as are women*.

* Thouret found in twenty cases, which he, Veilard, Andrée, Bonnard, and Sauvage had observed, the proportion to be

	WOMEN.	MEN.
	6	14
M. M. Andry, Chamseru, Briende, M. Poulletier, De la Salle,	11	18

making a total of 17 women and 32 men: and, as Fothergill and Pujol say that most of their patients were females, the proportion will be found to be pretty equal.

THE EXCITING CAUSES

Are, cold applied to the face in a stream, whether of air or of water; particularly when the patient is fatigued by previous exhaustion. Exposure then, to stormy, damp, moist, windy, and tempestuous weather, frequently excites an attack: also external injuries, as blows and contusions on the face. Passions of the mind, as excess of anger or of grief.

The disease being once established in the system, the slightest causes in some individuals will bring on a paroxysm: such as eating, drinking, or talking; or indeed any motion of the facial muscles. The gentlest touch with a handkerchief, or any other substance to the

nose, lips, cheek, &c. of the affected side.—Shaving is an operation most particularly shunned and dreaded by the unhappy patients; and often cannot be endured till after a considerable interval of ease. Blowing the nose is absolutely impracticable; or, if attempted, a most pungent and distracting torture attends the performance. M. Andrée, in a work intituled "Observations sur les Maladies de l'Urétre," mentions a very obstinate case of tic douloureux, which he attempted to cure by destroying the nerve that he supposed to be the seat of the disease. He began by laying it bare, and was astonished to find, that every time he touched the denuded nerve, he immediately excited symptoms of the disorder; the paroxysm ceasing in the usual time, and recurring whenever the nerve was touched. This fact is very clear and decisive as to the part affected by the disease, and hence we readily perceive why the least touch or motion on the surface of the skin produces a paroxysm.

When the pain has continued with frequent accessions for a length of time, a most distressing scene is sometimes witnessed. The patient, whose health at the time is generally good, after desisting from eating and drinking, till the keenness of his appetite, and the intensity of his thirst, are too irresistibly urgent to be longer unrelieved, attacks whatever food is placed before him, with maniac fury, and hurried precipitancy, his countenance suffused with crimson, and convulsed and contorted with pain. This horrid conflict does not last long: he soon throws down his knife and fork with desperate violence, obliged to solicit a cessation of pain by a state of inaction.

PROXIMATE CAUSE.

HERE we had better, at once, confess our entire ignorance, than indulge in hypotheses, which only serve to amuse the fancy, and distract the attention, by straining at impossibilities and conjectural absurdities; and I must here crave permission unequivocally to declare my total repugnance to all points merely speculative, which only serve to destroy time, and pervert the understanding; and which, after an endless round of useless discussion, bring us to this melancholy conclusion, that in proportion as our information increases, our knowledge diminishes. But in this our day we are sorely infected with the rage of accounting for every thing; no matter whether it be or be not ex-

plicable. Nothing less than explanation will satisfy us; mere matter of fact is too dull and too groveling for our aspiring genius.

..... " God involves the heav'n
" In tempests; quits his grasp upon the winds,
" And gives them all their fury; bids a plague
" Kindle a fiery boil upon the skin,
" And putrify the breath of blooming health.
" He calls for famine, and the meagre fiend
" Blows mildew from between his shrivell'd lips,
" And taints the golden ear. He springs his mines,
" And desolates a nation at a blast.—
" Forth steps the spruce philosopher, and tells
" Of homogeneal and discordant springs
" And principles; of causes; how they work,
" By necessary laws, their sure effects:
" Of action, and reaction: he has found
" The source of the disease that nature feels;
" And bids the world take heart, and banish fear."

Let it not, however, be imagined, that I am desirous to do away all inquiry and investigation, and to sit down in contented igno-

rance: I with confidence declare, that no one can have a greater abhorrence from desiring to stifle all rational inquiry than myself; I only request leave to smile at the eagerness and ardour with which merely speculative and visionary forms are sought after and discussed; but, far from me be such stupidity and frigid inertness, as to require that the torch of investigation and of truth may not be applied to explore and to illumine those paths of knowledge, by which our corporeal frame, our intellect, and our heart, may be invigorated, expanded, and ameliorated.

But to return; it was from a wish to ascertain the proximate cause of the morbus crucians, that Dr. Fothergill hinted at its being occasioned by a cancerous acrimony: but he by no means asserted that this was the cause; he merely suggested the possibility of its being so; and advanced what he did, more with the view of eliciting the observations of others,

than from a conviction of a cancerous acrimony always being present. Thus he observed: "In cases of singular difficulty and "obstinacy, it is natural for us to be inquisitive "into their causes and their nature. Unsuc- "cessful experiments sometimes lead the way "to instruction; and we ought never to cease "investigating the most abstruse recesses of "nature; nor at the same time forget the "narrow limits of our capacity, and the dan- "ger of presumption. What therefore I have "to offer upon the nature of this disease, is "rather submitted to your consideration as "matter of further inquiry, than as opinions "sufficiently established."

I WAS, then, less surprised to find Dr. Haighton very easily confute what was thrown out as mere conjecture; and which nothing more was wanting than greater experience upon the subject for Dr. F. himself to contradict, than to find Dr. H. assert, "The tic douloureux

" was involved in more than original darkness " by the writings of that physician*." As many, however, yet incline to the opinion, that the disease is of a cancerous nature, it will be proper, in this part of the subject, to notice such opinions.

Dr. Fothergill had observed that his patients were mostly women, and chiefly past the period of menstruation. " In two cases, " a small hard tumor in the breast, had occa- " sioned some suspicion of a schirrus, but had " never proceeded to give trouble." He afterwards met with two more cases, in which there were " hard, permanent, and painful tumours " in the breast." To those who are familiar with cancer, it is well known that such patients have frequent, sharp, lancinating, and remittent pains, shooting in different parts of the body, and not confined to the tumour or

* See Medical Records.

ulceration; or even take place before any tumour is observed. It was, then, not at all wonderful, that a disease so formidable and terrific as the morbus crucians, a dsease at that time little known and less understood, should be supposed to originate from a cancerous acrimony. The time of life, the sex, the supposed use of cicuta in the treatment of both complaints; all contributed to such an opinion.—But further experience, obtained from subsequent observations, completely and satisfactorily removes all such suppositions.

A CANCEROUS acrimony, or humour, or predisposition, does not perceptibly exist in the habit, without producing induration and ulceration. But the morbus crucians, from its first attack to its last, never produces any visible change or disorganization of parts; and the blows which some patients have bestowed on their face, when in a paroxysm of pain, would

infallibly excite cancer, if a cancerous predisposition existed.

Some French and German writers have paid great deference to the cancerous acrimony of Fothergill; so much so, as in many instances to adopt it, and to consider it as a very satisfactory explanation of the nature of the disease; for many men will rather rest satisfied with an imaginary cause, than give themselves the trouble of investigating the truth, or confess their entire ignorance. Indeed the generality of mankind are contented with mere assertion, and seldom have the courage to question authority, or dare to disregard the influence of a name. But surely, neither the eminence of Dr. Fothergill as a physician, nor his respectability as a man, were sufficient to exculpate these men for receiving, and reasoning upon as a fact, what he merely uttered as a conjecture, with a view to excite the inqui-

ries of others. These ingenious gentlemen, however, were not content with receiving cancerous acrimony as a cause of the disease, they also exercised their invention, and astonished their readers with assigning as proximate causes, all the various humours, and acrimonies, and viri, &c. &c. which ever attack the human body; amongst which I shall now only enumerate the *gouty*, the *scrophulous*, the *scorbutic*, the *catarrhal*, the *rheumatic*, the *miliary*, the *tetterous*, and the *syphilitic*. All of which, except the gouty, I shall pass over in silence. But I have heard and read of so many cases, in which gout and the morbus crucians existed in the same habits, and alternated with each other, that candour obliges me to relate the fact, but no more. I know not in what the arthritic humour, if it is a humour, consists; much less do I presume to assign it as the proximate cause of the morbus crucians. Thouret, however, must be excepted from the partizans of the humoral doctrine. He asks, is

there one of these humours which gives rise to analogous pains, and of the same kind, as the tic douloureux? Besides, he observes, that it would be very contrary to reason to admit that a disease, arising from such a multiplicity of causes, should invariably present a regular and constant type; whilst the affection arising from the causes before enumerated, as gout, &c. are so distinct, and differ so essentially one from another.

Hales, the Abbé Bertholon, M. le Camus, Gaubius, and several other physicians, have considered the living animal body as a true electrical machine; and some of them have discovered in the electric fluid, all the properties of that vivifying fluid which, say they, circulating through the nerves, has been ever considered as the great principle and source of sensibility, and animal mobility. Pujol thinks this has been so completely established by the experiments of certain modern physicians, that

it is no longer an hypothesis; and observes that the nerves are naturally highly electric; that upon friction being applied to them in the dark, they emit a very perceptible light; and that this light, the measure of their electricity, is much more vivid when the nerves subjected to the experiment are taken from a body which before death was affected by some convulsive disorder. With M. le Camus, he regards life, sensation, and motion, as purely electrical phenomena; and the brain as the common reservoir of the electrico-animal fluid which is generated in every part of the living machine; and the nerves he considers as merely conductors of the cerebral electricity.

Hence, says he, we should conclude that the mean state of nervous electricity, establishes in the animal that harmony between all the functions which constitutes health; and the absolute deprivation of that positive electricity proper to animal bodies, is nothing more nor

less than death; and in excess, or when too intense, it is productive of painful and spasmodic diseases.

GAUBIUS was even so thoroughly convinced of the spontaneous electricity of animals, and of its augmentation under certain circumstances, as to believe that the electricity in the human body may be so much accumulated as to make it receive, on the approach of foreign bodies, the sensation of a terrible shock; and he attributes to an electric explosion taking place within the body, the spontaneous fire which has been known to reduce people to ashes; some instances of which are recorded by Haller.

Now, what do we get from all this hypothetical reasoning? Why truly, a conclusion as absurd as the data on which it is founded; and, as it is impossible to do sufficient justice to the clearness and perspicuity of M. Pujol

by any translation, he shall speak for himself. " C'est * assez pour notre objet d'avoir amené " le lecteur à conclure avec nous, que dans le " tic douloureux, les nerfs qui sont le siege de " la maladie, se trouvent dans un état constant " de rigidité outrée, et qu'ils reçoivent habi- " tuellement un excés d'esprit animal, quel " qu'il soit, cequi fait leur éréthisme; et leur " état habituelle d'éréthisme, continue la cause " proéguméne de la maladie." But enough " of this.

* It is enough for our purpose, says Pujol, to have brought the reader to conclude with us, that in the tic douloureux, the nerves which are the seat of the malady are in a constant state of excessive rigidity, and that they habitually receive an excess of animal spirit, whatever it be which causes their erethism, *éréthisme*, and their habitual state of erethism is the proximate cause of the tic douloureux; requiring, however, the intervention of some agent to produce an attack of the disease, and this agent is the occasional cause.

DIAGNOSIS.

WHEN the disease has completely established itself in the system, there can be little difficulty in distinguishing it, so plain are its characteristics, and so decided its symptoms, as not to leave a doubt of its nature in the mind of any one who has ever paid any attention to its appearance. The commencement of the disease is, however, more obscure, and more difficult to know: it requires very great discrimination and attention to ascertain, and to distinguish its first signs; they are then often confounded with, and mistaken for other complaints; and before the practitioner has decided upon their nature, the complaint is often so firmly fixed as to defy the powers of medicine; and yet, if ever

we are able to relieve the patient, it must be early, before the disease is fully established in the system. It will therefore be of great consequence to know what constitutions are most obnoxious to the complaint, at what period of life it generally begins, and to what diseases it bears any analogy. But this cannot be obtained without much observation, and the experience of numerous cases recorded by faithful observers. At present, our knowledge of the disease is in its infancy. From the few facts yet recorded, we cannot determine with precision the habit of body most liable to affections of this kind. From the history of the disease given in the former part of this treatise, it will be found rarely to have appeared before the patient had attained the fortieth year of life. It now, then, only remains for me to attempt to give such a diagnosis as shall distinguish it from the diseases and affections with which there is any possibility of its being confounded; and they are not very numerous.

It has been so frequently mistaken for odontalgia, as to attract the attention of almost every writer upon the subject. And many unfortunate people, either from their own ignorance, or from the want of skill in their medical attendants, have had several of their teeth, both sound and unsound, extracted, with no other effect than the increase of their misery, and vexation for the loss of such a necessary part of their economy. One instance, out of many, I here insert from Thouret.

" M. D.....*, Professeur de l'Université " de Caen, avoit été tellement affecté de ses " douleurs pendant quinze jours, qu'elles lui " avoient fait jeter les hauts cris. Il ne pou- " voit ni boire, ni manger, cracher, moucher, " eternuer, avaler même sa salive, marcher, ni

* M. D...., Professor of the University of Caen, had been so affected by his pains during fifteen days, as to be forced to utter loud cries. He could neither eat, drink, spit, sneeze, blow his nose, or even swallow his saliva, walk,

" parler, sans ressentir d'horribles souffrances. " Il avoit fait arracher, par le conseil egale- " ment de ses médecines, plusieurs dents qui " lui étoient bien necessaires pour la mastica- " tion, et la pronunciation." &c.

But I trust we shall no longer witness such cruel mistakes: and though our little knowledge of the nature of the disease, does not enable us to treat it with much success, we are at least enabled to know and distinguish its appearance.

From odontalgia, then, it is known by the age of the patient; the morbus crucians seldom appearing before that period of life when the tooth-ach is least prevalent, and when there are often very few teeth remaining. But what is

or talk, without feeling the most horrible agony. By the advice of his physicians, several of his teeth were drawn, &c. &c. He obtained not the smallest relief from their extraction.

chiefly to be relied upon, and which peculiarly distinguishes it from all other affections, is the shortness of the paroxysm, and the rapidity of its succession; and during the interval, an entire freedom from all pain; the seat of the pain, and its darting in several directions, according to the particular nerve affected, with an acuteness and poignancy differing from that of the tooth-ach, which seems to strike deep, whilst the pain of the morbus crucians is always more superficial, and infinitely more lancinating; and lastly, the convulsive twitchings which, though not always present, are very frequent, and are never experienced in odontalgia.

From rheumatism it is distinguished by a paroxysm being excited by the slightest touch; by the shortness of its duration, and the extreme violence of the pain: neither are the symptoms similar; for in rheumatism, if acute, there is general fever, redness and increased

heat in the affected part, and generally swelling; if chronic, the pain is dull, obtuse, long continued, and often increased at night; but none of these symptoms occur in the morbus crucians. When rheumatism and tooth-ach are combined, the symptoms are equally distinct. In such cases there is rarely an interval of ease, and the night is generally the period when the pain is most troublesome.

From syphilitic pains, the disease is readily known by their history; their great alleviation during the day; their increased violence when warm in bed; and by their uniformly yielding to the use of mercury.

From gout, the morbus crucians is easily distinguished, by the patient passing in a moment from perfect ease to the utmost torture, which again as suddenly ceases; and there are many symptoms in gout, that are not present in the disease we are treating of: indeed I only

know of one in common with both, and that is pain; but even this differs sufficiently, to prevent the least difficulty in discriminating between the two diseases. Gout is either superficial or it is deep seated; in the one case it affects chiefly the joints, in the other, the viscera; neither of which happens in the morbus crucians. In fact, there is so little analogy between them, that it is scarcely necessary to observe, that dyspepsia, which usually precedes the one disease, is never present in the other: and nothing, surely, could ever induce practitioners to confound these two maladies together, but that inclination which some ingenious men have of referring every erratic pain that they cannot account for, to gout.

Until observation had established the characterizing symptoms of the morbus crucians, it was frequently considered as hemicrania; and some very able practitioners, with whom I have conversed on the subject, are more dis-

posed to regard it and hemicrania as one and the same disease, than to allow of its pretensions to individuality. Now, though I am far from wishing to render the knowledge of medicine more confused, by giving names to symptoms of diseases already named, and for my own part care little about the name of a disease, as long as I know how to cure it; yet, as there are practitioners, who, having obtained the name, consider the disease *therefore* half cured—as I have heard from professorial authority—it certainly is of consequence that the two complaints should be accurately distinguished, and each enjoy the undisturbed possession of its own title.

HEMICRANIA seems to have been the name for any pains affecting half the head, whether fixed or occasional, and which were not symptomatic of some other disease. Dr. Heberden, in his "De Morborum Historia,"

&c, page 83, says, " Hemicrania, sive dolor " dimidii capitis, nomen inter medicos veteres " obtinuit, quo ab aliis capitis affectibus dis- " tinguitur; tamen, ex tam longa experientia " nondum didicimus, præter sedem, quodnam " sit discrimen inter hunc et alios ejusdem par- " tis dolores."

Such pains would appear to be of the nature of rheumatism, and are to be treated by such remedies as are usually had recourse to in that disease.

There is also a painful affection of the head and face, which intermits; and which, when it occupies, as is generally the case, half of the head and face, may be properly termed hemicrania intermittens. Cases of this kind are very frequent; they often occur in stormy weather, particularly during the equinoxes, and are cured by bark, &c. And under this

head I should class such cases as were related in the former part of this paper, as observed by Hartenkeil, &c.

Now, the great point of distinction among these different affections, appears to be the very decided manner in which, in the morbus crucians, the pain follows the course of the nerves; so much so, that, from an intelligent patient's description, you might almost paint upon the external skin, the ramifications of the affected nerve.

This is not the case in hemicrania, for though in this complaint the patient will sometimes point to the antrum maxillare, as being the chief seat of the pain, yet in general it much more universally affects the half of the head; so much so, that it is sometimes impossible, and often very difficult to learn what part is most affected: neither is the pain of that excessive degree of poignancy which

would induce the patient cheerfully to undergo a surgical operation for its relief; and that practitioner must be more acute than I can imagine any one to be, who, in any case of hemicrania which I have ever heard of, would, without any doubt or misgiving, cut down to the nerve which he expected was the seat of the pain. In other words, I mean, that in no case could he ascertain what particular nerve was affected; and to cut up a man's cheek, as he would divide an apple, is a degree of cruelty from which humanity revolts.

WHETHER the two maladies are of the same nature or not, I am yet to learn; but of this I am pretty confident, that the symptoms are decidedly different; that one may be cured, whilst the other has seldom yielded but to the knife; and, as I shall afterwards shew, in many cases even that last resource has proved abortive.

Diseases connected with the antrum maxillare, are sometimes confounded with the morbus crucians; but they are generally stationary in their seat, less violent in their symptoms, and often terminate in abscess.

Pujol has thought proper to draw the line between this affection and the *clavus hystericus*, and some other diseases; but really, if we go on diagnosticizing at this rate, we may as well carry it through the whole nosology, and eke out a huge folio volume from materials that would barely fill a sheet. I shall therefore conclude these remarks, with an excellent passage from Dr. Haighton's very clear and accurate account of this affection.

"Besides these, there is a distinguishing "character, which will seldom fail to strike "the anatomist: viz. the uniform course of the "pain, which will generally correspond with

" the branches of the nerves. And an intel-
" ligent patient will frequently describe the
" dartings of pain so minutely, as to teach the
" practitioner the distribution of the several
" branches of the fifth pair, if he had not
" known it before."

THIS too, with the manner of attack, will distinguish it from spasms, cramp, &c. Yet Pujol has laboured hard to prove, that this disease of the nerves is nothing more than the σπασμον φυσωδην of the Greeks, and spasmum flatulentum of the Romans: in short, what we call cramp. But this said cramp seems to belong chiefly to the muscles, whether external or internal; and the viscera with muscular fibres, and which there are few individuals, who at one time or other of their lives, have not experienced. In fine, Pujol asserts, that tic douloureux is merely a cramp of the muscles of the face.

As Thouret has discussed this doctrine of cramp with much more ability than I am capable of, I shall content myself with translating the substance of what he has said upon the subject. "Pujol," he observes, "in support of "his hypothesis, asserts, that if we attentively "consider the phenomena of cramp in the in- "ferior extremities, we shall find that the "muscle attacked with this spasmodic affec- "tion, does not always become contracted, "and that it does not necessarily excite mo- "tions of flexion and extension. That some- "times the muscle, while contracted in diame- "ter, appears to be lengthened: but that in "most cases it is neither elongated nor short- "ened. But granting him all these, which "however are not always the characteristics "of cramp, he wants every single identity in "them, before he can compare cramp with an "accession of the tic douloureux. In which, "in common, we see no alteration in the traits "of countenance; nor, to the touch, is there

" any tumefaction or irregularity of surface,
" or motion of the affected parts*. But we
" may add, that the attacks of cramp have a
" character of constancy, and of duration, in
" their accessions, which those of tic doulou-
" reux do not present; the latter more parti-
" cularly appearing to consist in shootings, or
" dartings, of which the attacks are vivid, ra-
" pid, and fugitive, as lightning; never conti-
" nuing longer than a quarter or half a minute;
" which sufficiently distinguish it from cramp,
" as well as from those affections that are
" called spasms and convulsions: and invaria-
" bly to be a painful affection of the nerves
" themselves, and of them only, having no-
" thing in common with affections of the
" muscles and muscular fibres."

* Thouret, however, forgets, that in many of the cases which he has described, there were distortions of countenance, and convulsive twitchings of the facial muscles; which, perhaps, might have led Pujol to the opinion, that the two affections were similar.

This reasoning of Thouret's must be, to every reasonable being, perfectly satisfactory; nevertheless, we must grant the tribute of praise to Pujol, for his laborious perseverance, in wading through the writings of Galen, of Aetius, of Paul d'Egine, of Cœlius Aurelianus, of Avicenna, of Mercurialis, of Valescus de Taranta, of Donatus, and of a great number of other equally respectable authors, to ascertain whether they had not described the tic douloureux under some other name; and though his cramp hypothesis was the only fruit of his exertions, we must commiserate his want of success, whilst we are grateful for his good intentions. Those who are desirous of such profound disquisitions, however great their appetite, may be sufficiently satiated in Pujol's work.

PROGNOSIS.

It is usual in systematic writers of diseases, to give a prognosis; but, perhaps, we should not suffer any loss if this part of their labour was more frequently omitted. In general, all that we learn from them is, that when the symptoms are violent, the danger is great; and when they are slight, the danger is small.—Never is the ability of a physician more tried than when, from the presence of certain symptoms, he is called upon to judge of the event: and he who pronounces a decided opinion from what he has read in his closet, will frequently have cause to repent of his blind confidence in the assertions of others; and though most

practitioners may come to some conclusion in their own minds as to the probable event of almost every case that they attend, it will generally be found that those who are the most able and experienced, are the least disposed to prognosticate; and, when pressed with importunity, like the ancient oracles, couch their language in such dubious terms, that their opinion ever coincides with the event.

As all the information that can be collected upon this unfortunate disease must be interesting, before proceeding to the cure, I shall take the liberty of inserting a short account of it, which I received, whilst a student at Edinburgh, from Dr. Curry, Physician of Guy's Hospital, whose friendly communications on the subject I most gratefully acknowledge.

"I HAVE made every possible inquiry from "Dr. Haighton and others, respecting the tic "douloureux. I shall give you the result.

" In the original case related by Dr. H.—
" which was that of his own mother—the
" disease was supended for six or seven years.
" But it has again returned; though neither
" with the same frequency nor violence, as
" before. In some other cases, it has recurred
" as soon as the nerve united, and became able
" to perform its function, of conveying energy
" from the brain.

" With respect to medicines:—though
" some occasionally appeared to do good, they
" have all, in their turn, failed so often, as to
" admit of no confidence being placed in any
" one.

" Mr. Cooper has operated on five per-
" sons; four of whom still remain free from
" a return. But these are, comparatively of
" late date; so that no conclusion can be
" drawn in favour of the permanent benefit
" derived from an operation. Even admitting,

" that during the time the divided nerve re-
" mains incapable of transmitting involuntary
" efforts, the morbid disposition may wear out,
" yet it is seldom that the complaint is confined
" to one nerve, or one branch; and some of
" those affected are often out of the reach
" of an operation *.

" I AM now fully convinced, that the dis-
" ease commonly known under the name of
" Hemicrania, is no other than the tic doulou-
" reux affecting the nerves which supply the
" temporal muscle and scalp. I have had
" occasion to see, and treat three cases of this
" kind in Guy's Hospital.—One of them you
" may perhaps remember: a tall thin woman,
" about thirty, who was under Dr. Saunders.
" She went out without relief: and was after-

* Since I received the above account, I have heard of four cases in which the operation has, for the present, completely succeeded. One of them occurred ten years ago, and the patient has experienced no return of the symptoms.

" wards, for some time, an out-patient; but " received no permanent benefit from any re- " medies prescribed.

" THE other two were clinical patients last " winter.

" SUSAN HARGRAVE, ætat. 26, a tall " thin woman, of a clear complexion, and " light brown hair; admitted November 12, " 1800.—Five months ago, a few days after " delivery of a dead child, succeeded by violent " flooding, was seized with pain in the right " ear, which by degrees extended to the temple, " upper part of the head, the teeth, and the " side of the neck, accompanied with noise in " the ear, and a sensation as if a bone were " snapping within her head.

" ABOUT a month after this complaint be- " gan, she was attacked with a fit, which has " recurred six or seven times since; sometimes

" lasting only ten minutes, and sometimes two
" or three hours, preceded by great increase
" of the pain in her head, and accompanied
" with insensibility. These sometimes attack
" her very suddenly, and are frequently usher-
" ed in with flushings, burning heat, and great
" lowness of spirits; coldness of the feet, and
" dimness of sight.

" HAS menstruated regularly since nineteen.
" Bowels occasionally costive. Appetite great-
" er than natural; but no thirst. Sleeps badly;
" and, sometimes, sweats during sleep. Fits
" never come on while she is asleep. P. 76.
" Skin and tongue natural. Vessels of the
" eyes, somewhat turgid; but not inflamed.

" A BLISTER to the right temple, and gr.
" iij. of Vitriolated Zinc, three times a-day.

" No effect arising from these medicines,
" or the use of P. Ipecac. Com. taken for se-

" veral nights, in dozes of gr. xv. She was
" successively put on the use of Valerian,
" with Decoct. Cinchon. Julep. Hydrarg. Mu-
" riat. Ungt. Hydrarg. Haust. Opiat. et Di-
" gitalis. But without any apparent advan-
" tage.

" What seemed to do her most good, was
" ℥j of Vitrd. Zinc, every morning, and gr.
" iij. of Opm. at bed time. But even these
" did not give any permanent relief.

" HER fits resembled hysteria, rather than
" epilepsy; being often accompanied with
" violent screaming, and sense of globus.

" She quitted the hospital whilst I was ill
" of typhus. And I do not know what be-
" came of her.

" I GAVE her complaint the title of Hemi-
" crania Epileptica, on her admission. But

" I question the propriety of it, now that I " think it might be identified with tic doulou- " reux.

" You will find a case related by Mr. Home, " in the Trans. of Chirurg. Soc. somewhat " resembling this, in being accompanied with " fits, from the violence of the pain. In that " case, the pain began in the thumb; origi- " nated in a hurt; and baffled every attempt " to remedy it; and at last proved fatal.

" Another clinical case, was in a woman " about forty, of rather a corpulent habit, clear " complexion, and light brown hair; in whom " the pain took place after getting wet while " under the use of mercury, for a venereal com- " plaint, apparently only gonorrhœa, which " her husband communicated to her.

" She was first put on the Extr. Cicut. et H. " Anod. h. s. And afterwards, to satisfy her

" mind, on the Plummer's Pill, until her mouth
" became sore; as she could not help attribut-
" ing all her complaints to her husband's mis-
" conduct.

" The pain chiefly occupied the temples and
" top of the head, so severe as nearly to deprive
" her of reason while it lasted; and leaving
" the affected parts very tender to the touch.
" But, in this woman, it quitted the head, and
" attacked the muscles of the neck and chest;
" particularly under the sternum. And in that
" situation it remained the last time I saw her;
" which was during the summer, when she
" again applied as an out-patient.

" The circumstance which struck me most
" in all these cases, was a remarkable re-
" semblance in the three patients, in having a
" peculiarly clear, almost transparent skin;
" which, I conceive, indicates a high degree
" of nervous sensibility. Indeed, the disease

" may be considered purely nervous; for the " spasm of the muscles is by no means such as " would account for the severity of the pain, " as in trismus or tetanus.

" In the last woman, and also in a butcher " that I saw, and who resembled all the women " in clearness of skin, there was a copious flow " of scalding tears during the paroxysm.

" I have now told you all I know, or can " collect, about this obstinate disease; for " which nothing yet proposed promises a cer- " tain and permanent relief. I think arsenic " deserves a trial."

As a fact, without attempting to reason upon it, I shall simply mention a case recorded by Pujol, of a lady, with whom the pain did not continue stationary; but, after being in one cheek for months, went over to the other, leaving the first free from all uneasiness, and

then again returning to its first point of attack. When the complaint first seized the patient, it entirely ceased several times for the space of months; and during the intervals, convulsive, though not painful motions in the extremities, and even in the trunk, took place: these again entirely subsided, when the cheek became affected with a return of the tic douloureux. Another lady was singularly affected by a nervous and spasmodic disease, the effects of which were irregularly felt throughout the nervous system. After certain catarrhal fluxions, to which she was very subject, she would often be seized with a violent paroxysm of tic douloureux, accompanied with convulsive twitchings. This would continue for about a month, during which time no other spasmodic symptom appeared; and, at the end of that time, the tic douloureux went away of itself, and the original nervous complaint resumed its accustomed universality.

I saw a case in the autumn of 1801, under the care of my friend Dr. Cappe, late of York, with well marked symptoms of the disease, and all corresponding with the history given in the first part of this paper.

This patient was a man of about fifty years of age, of a robust make, full habit, and by no means of a clear skin. He was subject to gout; and observed, that as one disease approached, the other receded; that he never had them both together; and at intervals, was entirely free from either of them: he further remarked, that since he became subject to the morbus crucians, the gout occurred much seldomer than before. Leeches were applied; and opium, cicuta, and ether, taken in sufficient doses, and continued long enough to shew their inefficacy in the cure of this obstinate malady. The opium procured ease for a short space; but only when taken in quantity

too great to admit of its being repeated, without risking the patient's life.

A SINGULAR circumstance attending this patient, was, that when the pain was very intense, if he resolutely sat down to play at whist, a game of which he was particularly fond, the pain would generally cease, before he had played a single rubber, and whilst his attention was completely absorbed in the game, not another paroxysm occurred.

THIS happened too often to be considered as accidental.

TREATMENT.

Of the inefficacy of most medicines, in the cure of this cruel disease, we have abundant and melancholy proof. Those which have been said to procure ease, are, Opium, Cicuta, Zinc, Stramonium, Belladonna, Argentum Nitratum, and Arsenic. But the instances in which a cure was effected by their use *, are very rare: indeed some practitioners, from painful experience, deny their efficacy altogether. All manner of topical applications, from blisters to the smoking entrails torn from living

* Dr. Fothergill was certainly very successful with the Extract of Hemlock, in two or three cases; but, with other practitioners, this drug has generally been found ineffectual.

pigeons *, have been in vain applied; and baths and bleedings of all sorts.

M. Watson, Professor of Chemistry in the Central School of Vaucluse, relates two cases of tic douloureux arising from venereal causes †. The first was of an officer in the French army, aged thirty: the other, that of a lady aged forty. They were both completely cured by a course of mercury. These cases in some respects differed from the morbus crucians, but had its most distinguishing characteristic, darting pains in the direction of the nerves. We learn nothing more from them, however, than that, where the symptoms of

* I am sorry to observe that France was the country where, in the latter end of the eighteenth century, this barbarous and inhuman relick of the superstition of the dark ages, was had recourse to by those who, from the respectability of their situation, ought to have scouted and reprobated a practice truly worthy of barbarians.

† See Recueil Periodique de la Societé de Medicine de Paris, Tom. 4.

the morbus crucians are excited by the existence of a venereal taint in the habit, they will depart when that taint is overcome by the action of mercury: but it is found from experience, that in ordinary cases the symptoms are not in the least relieved by the use of mercury.

Recourse has next been had to electricity, to magnetism, to actual cautery, and finally, to the section of the affected nerves.

Electricity sometimes procures temporary ease, but as frequently increases the pain; though Mr. Blunt, in the Medical Journal, relates the case of a lady afflicted with tic douloureux being cured by electricity. The pain was chiefly seated in the right temple, and the symptoms are so well described as not to be disputed. She was electrified twice in the day for several minutes each time, first with sparks, then with shocks, after having pre-

viously endured a long and ineffectual course of powerful medicines. Immediately after the second application of electricity, she ventured to eat, and performed that necessary operation without any inconvenience. The pains afterwards recurred very slightly; the electricity was continued; and, in the course of a short time, she became entirely free from the complaint. The decided success of this, though a solitary case, in such a dreadful disease, authorizes us to hope that future trials may be made of the application of electricity; which, under the direction of an able practitioner, is often a very powerful instrument in the cure of disease; and much oftener fails from want of care and assiduity in the application, than from inefficiency in itself as an agent.

MAGNETISM, about thirty years ago, was as hotly pursued as is Galvinism, or Perkinism, in this our time. It was the fashion of the day, and consequently applied to every affec-

tion of the body; to charm a cancer from the tongue, or chase a pain from the great toe.—Of course, such a wonder-working and miraculous agent, was tried in the morbus crucians; and, as we might expect, there were not wanting those who immediately attested its powers, and confirmed its efficacy, the pain instantly retreating upon its application. In some instances it advanced or sprung forwards with incredible velocity into the magnet itself; the operators and by-standers observing, at the moment when the magnet was applied to the part in pain, "un mouvement très marqué dans "la peau, qui semble se porter au devant de "l'instrument;" and, to complete the farce, the patient feels the nerves distributed to the affected parts, dart forwards towards the magnet. M. M. Andry, and Thouret, are not content even with this, but say, "L'aimant * "fait plus encore, même à trois et quatres lignes

* The magnet does still more, even at three or four lines

" de distance de la peau, il la déplace, et maitre,
" pour ainsi dire, de la douleur, le malade peut
" la promener à son gré dans les parties voi-
" sines du siége principal, qui est au dessous
" de l'œil, telles que le nez, la joue, la levre
" superieure, les gencives, &c. Ce déplace-
" ment à quelque chose de curieux. Il semble
" que l'aimant ait le même empire sur la dou-
" leur, que sur l'aiguille qui surnageant dans
" un basin, suit les divers mouvements de l'ai-
" mant que lui est presenté dans une distance
" convenable." So, merely by moving a mag-
net up and down, at some three or four lines

distance from the skin, it displaces it; and, so to speak, master of the pain, the patient can march it at his will, to the parts surrounding, or contiguous to, the principal seat of the affection, which is beneath the eye; as for instance, the nose, the cheek, the upper lip, the gums, &c. This displacement has something curious in it. It seems as if the magnet has the same command over the pain, as it has over the needle, which, swimming in a bason, follows the various movements of the magnet that is presented to it at a convenient distance.

distance from the skin, the patient has it in his power to draw the pain about in different directions, as a needle swimming in a bason is influenced by a magnet applied on the outside. This, really, is *quelque chose de curieux.*

In some few cases, where the disease was recent, and the pain slight, the use of the magnet certainly procured ease; but merely, I should conceive, by forcibly acting upon the imagination; like the modern tractors, and all such absurdities, with which the credulity of mankind is daily gulled, and deservedly duped. Indeed it is much safer, and more prudent, to ease people of their superabundant cash with a patent, than to dive into their pockets without one; the one practice is attended with riches and honour, the other with infamy and disgrace.

I have never seen any of the French artificial magnets, but, from the wonderful pro-

perties that they formerly possessed, for their virtue seems to be now entirely lost, I should suppose them to be very similar to the metallic tractors, which certainly inherit all the good qualities, and, I doubt not, the *durable* efficacy also, of the magnets: hence the probability of their extreme utility in curing the morbus crucians. That the former instrument possessed this power in a remarkable degree, we have many indisputable testimonies upon record; as a specimen of which I insert the following:

A PATIENT, after using various medicines, hot sulphurous baths, pumpings, &c. without the excruciating symptoms of the tic douloureux being in the least relieved, was placed under the care of Simon Vacher, Physician in Chief to the Military Hospital of Corsica: he advised the use of an artificial magnet. "On* "fit fabriquer une plaque d'acier, trés polie ex-

* A plate of steel was constructed, highly polished ex-

" terieurement, concave du coté opposée, afin
" d'y loger la partie souffrante. Cette plaque
" duement aimantée, s'appliquoit le soir, et elle
" étoit fixée au moyen des rubans qui y etoient
" attachés. Le malade l'otoit le matin; elle
" étoit alors enduite d'une serosité, couleur de
" brique, qu'il avoit le soin de nettoyer; cette
" couleur étoit sans doute l'effet de la rouille.
" Bientot le malade éprouva un soulagement
" manifeste, les douleurs diminuerent graduelle-
" ment, et après cinque mois d'usage de cette
" plaque, c'est à dire, vers la fin de Septembre
" 1783, il fut totalement delivré d'une maladie

ternally, and made concave, for the purpose of lodging in it the suffering part. The plate, being duly magnetized, was applied in the evening, and was fixed to the cheek by means of ribbons attached to it. The patient took it off in the morning; it was then covered with a serosity of a brick colour, which was wiped off; this colour was doubtless the effect of rust. The patient very soon experienced a manifest relief, the pains gradually diminished, and, after five months use of the plate, that is to say, towards the end of September 1783, he was completely freed from a cruel and obstinate disease.

"opiniâtre et cruelle." Since which time he has discontinued the use of the magnet, and has not experienced another attack. Six years after this, he suffered from the gout. In this instance, the magnet was merely a concave plate of steel magnetized; but, in general, the magnets in use were cylindrical, or small pieces of steel of any convenient length, and applied in a manner very similar to that in which the metallic tractors have lately been used in this country; and I have no doubt that it was equally of as little consequence whether the steel, in the one instance, was magnetized, as, in the other, whether the real genuine *six guinea* tractors were employed; or pieces of iron, wood, &c. made to resemble them.

In all ages, and in all countries, I believe, it will be found, that the credulity of men is commensurate with their ignorance; and, till the rays of knowledge have illumined and shed their benign influence upon a country, that

man who has discovered a truth unknown to his contemporaries, is not distinguished from him who has the ingenuity, and the audacity, to impose upon them the visionary offspring of fiction, or the deceitful conception of villany, for the certainty of truth, and the blessing of a discovery that is *solely* for the benefit of mankind.

IGNORANCE must ever be at the mercy of knowledge; and, in proportion as that knowledge is scanty and circumscribed, is it liable to be abused. Hence, in the dark ages, the power of priests, arrogating the high and holy name of religion, and daring to envelope their deeds of iniquity in the mantle of purity; of sciolists in chemistry ranking as magicians, and performing miracles; of pretenders to medicine, or quacks, curing diseases by supernatural agents, or with *equal success* applying the *same* remedy to every complaint: and hence also the numerous tribe of witches, of

fortune-tellers, of conjurers, of false prophets, and of expounders of dreams; the professors of chiromancy, of necromancy, and of animal magnetism. But the blessed doctrines of Christianity are in this our day divested of bigoted superstition, and expounded by men great in ability as they are dignified for virtue; the witches have been burnt; the necromancers, and the chiromancers, have slunk back into their native obscurity; chemistry has advanced with rapid and firm steps to the dignity of a science, and is daily pouring forth on men new blessings; physic has been rescued from the jargon of the schools, and is pursued by men who honour their profession; yet quackery insolently rears its head, and is still to be numbered among the plagues that are permitted to scourge mankind. Nor is this a difficulty of hard solution; whilst there is a demand for quackery, professors of it will not be wanting. Life is precious, the great mass of the people ignorant and credulous. There are two descrip-

tions of men who profess to cure diseases—the one promises a certain and infallible cure, draws up a long list of most strange and miraculous cases all completely cured; the other description of practitioners proceeds with caution, and rarely pronounces a firm and decided opinion as to the effect of the medicines, or the event of the case: to discriminate between the merits of each, demands some stretch of intellect; and the mind that fluctuates between the two, cannot surely long resist the evidence of a case in point, nor the infallibility of a nostrum which possesses the power of curing a variety of opposite diseases. Besides, the facility of purchasing at a vender's a box of specific pills, or a bottle of infallible elixir, that shall instantly relieve every symptom of disease, and even arrest the soul about to quit its earthly tenement, is an inducement in favour of quackery, too irresistible for flesh and blood to withstand. But, perhaps, I have said enough upon a subject which is sufficiently interesting

to demand a longer discussion, though not in this place; and I shall only add, that I do not alike condemn every medicine dignified with a patent, as I believe there may be some few of them, in particular cases, of real utility; neither do I wish to speak irreverently or disrespectfully of such attempts at new discoveries as may improve the science of medicine, and consequently ameliorate the condition of man, from whatever motive they are undertaken.—Among such attempts I am willing to consider magnetism, *the science*, and the metallic tractors, &c. but when they have had a fair and ample trial, and their total inanity is established; or the evil resulting from their adoption is greater than the benefit expected; surely we should consider their existence as destructive to the well-being of man, and prejudicial to the interests of society; for though, on most occasions, performing divers and sundry evolutions with a piece of metal, or twirling the fingers in scientific mazes, may be very pretty

and very innocent; yet, when life is the stake, to neglect the proper and certain means of recovery, and have recourse to toys, or to the incantations of old women, is a degree of callous indifference to the sufferings of the patient worthy of the natives of Kamtschatka, or the barbarous inhabitant of Caffraria: and whilst we compassionate those who are deceived into a belief of their sovereign efficacy, we cannot but contemn those who derive emolument from their practice, as wretches battening on the folly and misery of an ignorant and deluded people.

The mode of destroying the affected parts of the nerve by caustic, has been adopted by some practitioners, and said to be attended with success. But, till more experience has better established the utility of such a cruel operation, I would by no means recommend its use. I believe it has not been had recourse to in this country: and some cases are related

in which it did not succeed; and others, in which deformity of the face was the consequence. M. Andrée, however, has tried it, and recommends its general use. In his work, will be found an account of the method of operating.

The section of the affected nerve was thought of and tried many years ago, in the cure of this disease: and of late years, from a temporary success, some practitioners have confidently asserted, that the cure was effectual and radical; but I fear more recent experience has destroyed the validity of such assertions.

So long back as the year 1768, Veillard published a thesis, in which he decided this question in the negative. "Utrum in pertinacibus capitis, facieique doloribus, aliquid "prodesse posse sectio ramorum nervi quinti "paris?" Now, it is not likely that he

should have treated this important question superficially; but that he would rather collect all the information that at that time could be obtained upon the subject. I could not procure the thesis; but very respectable report is made of it, by several authors. He mentions two cases where the disease returned after the division of the nerves; and others, in which bad consequences ensued after the operation.

MARESCHAL, about the middle of the last century, operated twice without success.

PUJOL was so convinced of its uncertainty, that he would not venture upon it. He has seen the muscles paralyzed, and the face distorted, in consequence of the operation.

SABATIER relates, that Ritah, Surgeon to the King of Poland, performed the operation with success. But the patient, after being free

from the complaint for some time, again was attacked with his former pains.

MODERN practice seems also to confirm our scepticism, in the permanent success of dividing the nerves. We see, that what was at first supposed to be the most decisive case in its favour, the operation performed, and the account of it so ably recorded by Dr. Haighton, is now not to be relied upon.

MR. A. P. Cooper, has frequently performed the operation with similar present success, but with what permanency time only can determine.

THERE is a case related by Darwin, in the Zoonomia, of a gentleman who first had the second branch of the fifth pair divided; then the first branch; and thirdly, the remaining third branch. But the patient was not yet re-

lieved. He then had several incisions made across the side of the nose, and ala nasi, through the masseter muscle to the jaw bone, through the parotid gland. And lastly, some more twigs from the second branch of the fifth pair passing into the cheek, and lying between the pterygoideus internus muscle and the upper part of the lower jaw. These operations where performed by Mr. Cruikshank and Mr. Thomas. The patient, it seems, at length escaped alive and cured.

De Haen has divided the suborbitar nerve, as have also Moreau and Guerin, without any bad consequences.

For the best method of operating, see Dr. Haighton's paper in the Medical Records: to which, as well as to Mr. Cooper's, in his Surgical Lectures, I would beg leave to add the improvement of dissecting down to the nerve, so as to see it; by which greater certainty is

obtained, and very little more pain occasioned. As the operation is now performed by cutting down to the bone at a dash, it is very easy for the nerve to escape altogether: Mr. Cooper's directions for operating, when I had the gratification of attending his lectures, were, as nearly as I remember, these, supposing it to be the infra orbital nerve—"Make an incision about "half an inch below the middle of the orbit, "between it and the ala nasi, obliquely out- "wards and downwards, about three quarters "of an inch long, taking care to cut down to "the bone. The suborbitar artery, which ac- "companies the nerve, is divided in the opera- "tion. Should it afford troublesome hemorr- "hage, it may be stopped, by applying a dos- "sil of lint, or by making pressure with the "finger for some minutes."

It appears then, that as yet we know of no certain and radical cure for this painful affection. The section of the nerves promises the

fairest; but, when it is had recourse to, the patient should be warned of the possibility of the complaint returning, and not amused with the certainty of its being completely cured.—Admitting, however, that the disease may return in the course of a few years, the operation is so simple, is attended with so little inconvenience or danger; and the relief, in general, so complete and instantaneous; that there can be little hesitation on the part of the practitioner in recommending its being performed; where the seat of the disease is accurately and certainly ascertained.

LENTIN declares he has had the misfortune to treat, in the course of twenty-seven years, fourteen patients attacked with this painful malady, without radically curing one; and calls upon all practitioners to make public any means they may have found to succeed either in performing a complete cure, or even a partial relief of the symptoms. The only remedies

from which he experienced any good effects, were the Tincture of Thornaple—Datura Stramonium Linnæi—and the Sulphurous Baths of Meundorf.

A French writer relates a method of taking nutriment, for those patients who feel an appetite, but dare not indulge it on account of the extreme pain; and that is, to suck through a small tube, as a quill, reed, &c. soup, broth, milk, or any nourishing fluid, so gently as not to excite any pain.

In the cure of diseases, the effect of mental stimuli has been too much overlooked; and yet there are few physicians who have not observed the great influence which the mind has upon the body, whether in health or in disease. In the particular complaint now before us, this influence may be directed with benefit to the patient, and credit to the practitioner. I am supported in this opinion, by the effect of the

pleasurable stimulus of card-playing in one case, for the truth of which I can vouch. There can be no doubt, that most of the effects said to be produced by the magnet, must have been from a powerful impression made upon the imagination: and in some other cases, sudden and strong emotions of the mind have been known for a time to put an end to the pain.—But the effect of the mind upon the body is a subject too important to be superficially treated: and I now merely throw out the hint; for, to pursue it, would involve a discussion which at present would be foreign to the design of this work.

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